

**AGENDA:** January 27, 2004

**8.6**

**CATEGORY:** Items Initiated by Council

**DEPT.:** City Council

**TITLE:** Regulatory Implementation of AB 1493—  
Vehicle Air Pollution Standards

### **RECOMMENDATION**

Direct staff to prepare a letter urging the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop and implement regulations that will achieve the maximum feasible and cost-effective reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from passenger, light-duty and other noncommercial vehicles per the intent of AB 1493 (Pavley).

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact directly associated with the approval of the above-listed recommendation.

### **BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS**

AB 1493 (Pavley), a bill requiring the CARB to develop and adopt regulations by January 1, 2005 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles, was enacted during the 2001-02 legislative session (Attachment 1).

Specifically, AB 1493:

- Directs the CARB to adopt regulations by January 1, 2005 that achieve the maximum feasible, cost-effective and technologically achievable reductions of greenhouse gas pollution emitted by new passenger vehicles.
- Targets emissions from passenger vehicles and light-duty trucks.
- Exempts vehicles used for farming and does not ban any class of vehicle or impose any taxes or restrictions on vehicle miles traveled.
- Requires the CARB to study potential impacts to the State's economy and ensure that regulations are economical to the owners or operators of passenger vehicles.
- Applies the new regulations to new vehicles manufactured in the 2009 model year and later.

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As the CARB continues to obtain information and public comment during 2004 in its development of regulations to reduce emissions from motor vehicles, it will be important that the intent of AB 1493—the development of regulations that achieve the maximum feasible and cost-effective reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicles—be maintained and not diluted when the resulting regulations are ultimately finalized and adopted.

A letter from the City of Mountain View urging the CARB to fulfill its duties under AB 1493 to create strong regulations may be helpful in ensuring that the intent of the legislation is reflected in the regulations that are ultimately adopted.

Sending a letter in support of the State's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through the implementation of AB 1493 is consistent with the Council Technology Committee's efforts to research and develop recommendations that will be presented in the upcoming Fiscal Year 2004-05 budget development process to take a leadership role in the reduction of vehicle emissions through the purchase of alternative fuel vehicles to reduce emissions and fuel consumption.

**PUBLIC NOTICING**—Agenda posting.

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Attachment: 1. AB 1493